

REMARKS

The amendments to claims 1, 5-7, 9-21, and 23 is needed to provide proper antecedent basis. Further, claim 7 has been amended to make clear that the second throttling disc is "rotatable." The term "essentially" has been deleted in claims 11 and 18 as being unnecessary. All of the claim amendments were voluntary and none of these amendments were required for purposes of patentability. Thus Applicant is entitled to the application of the Doctrine of Equivalents under *Festo* with respect to the amended limitations.

The proposed amendments do not require an additional search or examination or any substantial amount of additional work on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Further the amendments do not affect the patentability of the claims. The amendments were not previously presented because the present application is a national phase application from a PCT application claiming priority from a German application and required translation into English and amendment of the claims to a different claim format. The claims in the present application were allowed without an office action. It is submitted that these amendments are needed to place the claims in proper form. Applicant respectfully requests that these amendments be entered.

If any fees are inadvertently omitted or if any additional fees are required or have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account Number 03-2769.

Respectfully submitted,



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